

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 FEA-02 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01

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TAGS: TECH, PFOR, ENRG, UNGA, YO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN SECRETARIAT DIRECTOR FRANCES

COMMENTS ON ENERGY SITUATION, SPECIAL

UNGA SESSION

SUMMARY: FRANCES, NEWLY APPOINTED FSFA DIRECTOR, MULTILATERAL RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, TOLD CHARGE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE COULD PROVE USEFUL STEP BUT REITERATED GOY POSITION THAT PREFERABLE DISCUSS PROBLEM IN BROADER FORUM AND BROADER CONTEXT. HE CLAIMED ENERGY PROBLEM INTER-RELATED WITH OTHER ASPECTS OF WORLD ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS, AND THAT COMPREHENSIVE REEXAMINATION MA THESE NECESSARY. HE SAW AS A PRIMARY TASK CONVERSION OF EEC AND CEMA MEMBERS, AND MANY LCD'S FROM INWARD-LOOKING REGIONAL TO GLOBAL APPROACH. HE QUESTIONED WHETHER LDC'S WOULD HAVE TIME TO FULLY COORDINATE POSITIONS FOR UNGA SESSION, AND THOUGHT PRACTICAL RESULTS COULD BE ACHIEVED ONLY LATER IN SPENVAL FORA WITH WORLD-WIDE REPRESENTATION DEALING WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

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1. CHARGE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF INTRODUCTORY CALL (ARRANGED BY STARCEVIC) TO BRIEF BOZIDAR FRANCES, NEW DIRECTOR, OFFICE

OF MULTILATERAL RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, FSFA, ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE. CHARGE EMPHASIZED COOPERATIVE EFFORTS WE ENVISION TO RESOLVE ENERGY CRISIS, WITH LDC PARTICIPATION AND WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS.

2. FRANCES COMMENTED THAT WASHINGTON CONFERENCE COULD PROVE IMPORTANT STEP, ALTHOUGH HE QUESTIONED NEED FOR NEW SPECIAL BODY IN ENERGY SECTION AND EXPRESSED USUAL GOY CONCERNS ABOUT

"CONFRONTATION".

3. CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS IS "PERHAPS WORST SINCE WORLD WAR II", FRANCES SAID, BUT IT HAS SERVED TO REMIND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES OF THEIR DEPENDENCE ON LDC'S.

4. YUGOSLAVIA AGREES WITH OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, HE REITERATED, THAT TIME HAS COME FOR COMPREHENSIVE REEXAMINATION OF WORLD ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS, INCLUDING OIL, OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY, RAW MATERIALS, FINANCING, COMMERCIAL POLICY, AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORT, AND LDC DEVELOPMENT. REEXAMINATION MUST TAKE PLACE IN SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION.

5. A PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE, HE SAID, WAS TO PERSUADE MEMBERS OF EEC AND CEMA TO ABANDON THEIR "EXCESSIVELY REGIONALISTIC, CLOSED" APPROACH, AND CHANGE TO "GLOBAL" VIEWPOINT. IN CEMA, HE COMMENTED, "SOME COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY ROMANIA" ARE INCREASINGLY AWARE OF NEED FOR BASIC CHANGES IN RELATIONSHIPS WITH LDC'S BUT USSR AND OTHER STILL "INSIST IT'S NOT OUR PROBLEM." HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PROGRESS OF DETENTE AND IMPROVING STANDARDS OF LIVING WOULD BRING GREATER OPENNESS IN CEMA RELATIONS WITH ALL OUTSIDE COUNTRIES.

6. FRANCES EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT MANY LDC'S AS WELL ARE TAKING "REGIONAL" APPROACH, AND THAT THERE MAY BE "LDC CONFRONTATIONS" IN FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS.

7. THERE MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE ADEQUATELY FOR THE SPECIAL UNGA SESSION OR TO COORDINATE LDC'S APPROACHES, FRANCES CONCEDED. AFTER FORTHCOMING MEETING OF COORDINATING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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BUREAU, NON-ALIGNED MAY ONLY HAVE TIME FOR HURRIED SESSIONS IN NEW YORK JUST PRIOR TO UNGA. NEVERTHELESS, HE CONSIDERED IT "DANGEROUS" TO ATTEMPT TO POSTPONE UNGA.

8. AT BEST, UNGA WILL PRODUCE SOME "AGREED PRINCIPLES," FRANCES ESTIMATED. THEREAFTER SPECIAL GROUPS, WITH WIDE REPRESENTATION, WILL HAVE TO DEAL PRACTICALLY WITH INDIVIDUAL ISSUES. HE FAVORED DISCUSSION WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF "EXISTING INSTITUTIONS," RATHER THAN CREATION OF NEW ORGANIZATIONS.

9. ASKED ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA'S OWN ECONOMIC CONCERNS IN LIGHT
OF CRISIS (TO WHICH HE HAD NOT REFERRED AT ALL), FRANCES
SIMPLY ADMITTED "WE HAVE SAME PROBLEMS AS MOST EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES, AND NEED SAME SOLUTIONS."
JOHNSON

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